ANNUAL ADMINISTRATION REPORT ON THE WORKING OF THE CRIMINAL TRIBES SETTLEMENT DEPARTMENT IN SIND.

1940-41

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Sukkur, dated the 28th May 1941.

From

TUFAIL MOHAMED KHAN RAJPUT,
ESQUIRE, B.A., M.B.E.,
Criminal Tribes Settlement Officer in Sind, Sukkur.

To

THE CHIEF SECRETARY TO THE
GOVERNMENT OF SIND,
Home Department, Karachi.

SUBJECT.—*Criminal Tribes Settlement Department—Annual administration report on the working of the*—

Sir,

I have the honour to submit the administration report for the year ending 31st March 1941, on the working of the Criminal Tribes Settlement Department in Sind, as under :—

CHARGE.

2. The charge, as Criminal Tribes Settlement Officer, was held by me throughout the year. In addition I also worked in the following capacities :—

(1) Personal Assistant to the Collector for the whole year.

(2) Deputy Collector for Rohri Division from 11th April 1940 to 20th April 1940.

(3) Attached Deputy Collector in charge of Rohri taluka from 1st April to 14th May 1940 and from 19th October 1940 to date.

(4) Additional District Magistrate, Sukkur, throughout the year.

(5) Claims Enquiry Officer in connection with losses during the Sukkur riots, from 1st April 1940 to 21st June 1940.

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(6) Municipal Inquiry Officer, Sukkur, in connection with manipulation in the voters' lists.

Site of the Settlement.

3. The Settlement continued to be an open one and its site as kalarish and un-healthy as before.

Population.

4. The details of population for the year under report are as under :—

	Registered.	Unregistered dependents.	Total.
At the beginning of the year ...	29	28	57
New arrivals	4	13	17
Died	Nil.	...	...
Discharged on probation ...	Nil.	...	...
Discharged finally on the completion of 70 years age	1	...	1
Balance at the end of the year . .	32	41	73

5. Caste-war details of the settlers are shown in Appendix I.

Staff.

6. There was no change in the sanctioned strength of the staff.

Employment.

7. The employment situation has not improved as inspite of Government Instructions for preference to Criminal Tribes labour, prejudices against their employment still persist. These are legacies in no small measure of the last communal riots in Sukkur.

8. The settlers generally like to work on the land and accordingly an arrangement was made to get about 52 acres of private kabuli land in the immediate vicinity of the settlement on 'Batai' system and some settlers were engaged there. Two of the settlers are employed as peons in the Settlement Department, 2 others maintain a dairy in the settlement, one of whom has a milk shop in the town, while the rest eke out their existence by working as coolies or chowkidars.

Health, Housing and Sanitation.

9. The health of the inmates of the settlement was not so satisfactory on account of its un-healthy situation. Malaria was the main disease rampant there. The medical officer and the Red Cross Health Visitor, Sukkur, paid periodical visits. The latter did welfare work amongst the settler's women.

Education.

10 The number of students in the settlement school for the day and night classes at the end of the year was as under :—

Class.	Boys.	Girls.	Total.
Day School.			
Infant	7	2	9
I	1	2	3
II	1	...	1
Total ...	9	4	13
Night School.			
Infant	7	...	7
I	2	...	2
Total ...	9	...	9

11. The totals for the last year were 8 and 4, for the day and night school respectively. The welcome improvement in the number of students is the result of Government orders to the effect that all criminal tribes members including patharidars shoud be put in the settlement along with their legal dependents. The legal dependents of some of the settlers have yet to come and on their arrival, the number of students in the school is bound to increase still further. Besides, education in the neighbouring villages has been made compulsory and the settlement school is likely to gain popularity even on this score.

12. In addition to free supply of books, 5 scholarships of Rs. 1-8-0 each were granted to the deserving students as an inducement to the settlers to send their children to the school more readily. The settlement school was got examined through the Administrative Officer, Primary School Board, Sukkur Municipality, on 27th March 1941 and the result of the examination, which is quite satisfactory, is as under :—

Class.	No. appeared	No. promoted.
Infant	5	3
I	2	2
II	1	1
Total ...	8	6

ABSCONDINGS AND CONVICTIONS.

13. Two of the settlers who over-stayed their leave passes, were treated as absconders and challaned under the Criminal Tribes Act. One of them has since been convicted to 12 months rigorous imprisonment and the case against the other is still pending.

14. A settler while on leave pass in his village was challaned by the local Police for dishonest retention of stolen property and convicted to 6 months rigorous imprisonment under section 411 of the Indian Penal Code.

15. No settler absconded from the settlement premises or committed any offence in or near about the settlement. It is a good sign of proper vigilance by the settlement staff and of some improvement of the settlers in general.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION.

16. The settlers continued to take free tuition in "Kuran" from the Settlement School Teacher. Lectures on religious matters were also got delivered to them through a Moulvi in order to develop honest habits in them. At present the settlers offer their prayers in a mosque in the contiguous village but during the year under report, Government have been pleased to sanction a plot for a mosque on the premises. It is hoped that the mosque will be constructed as early as possible, with the help of donations from some philanthropists to afford convenience to the settlers and the guarding staff both.

SPORTS AND RECREATION CLUB.

17. Healthy sports and recreations with indoor and outdoor games, namely, Volley ball, swing and jumping apparatus, 'Kabadi' ludo and carrum were organised and the staff and the settlers were encouraged to take active part in them. Apart from improving health in general, the Settlement Recreation Club has proved attractive to keep the settlers occupied in their vacant hours and thus serve as a check on their leanings to criminal tendencies.

DISCHARGE FROM SETTLEMEMTS AND PROBATION WORK.

18. During the year under report, one settler and one probationer were discharged finally on attaining the age of 70. Two of the probationers died and their registration was cancelled. One Hur, repatriated from a Bombay Settlement, was put on probation in Sind. The total number of probationers under the settlement Department in Sind at the end of the year stood, therefore, as under :—

District.	Hur Probationers.	Patharidar Probationers.
Nawabshah ...	28	2
Thar Parkar ...	13	5
Hyderabad ...	1	...
Dadu ...	...	1
Sukkur ...	2	2
	44	10

19. The probation work was done by the Manager of Sukkur Settlement. He paid visits to the probationers to watch their conduct and be of some help to them in their difficulties, if any Their requests were duly attended to by him. I was not able to move out and attend to this work on account of my being busy in the District Magistrate, Sukkur's office with other more important work.

PANCHAYAT.

20. The Panchayat continued to do useful work in deciding petty disputes among the settlers amicably. It recovered a fine of Re. 1 in one case and unanimously sanctioned a sum of Rs. 29 for the purchase of clothes, etc., to indigent-settlers. The balance in the Panchayat Fund stood at Re. 0-2-6 at the end of the year.

CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETY.

21. The society did not function for want of skilled labour and on account of the uncertainty regarding the retention or abolition of the settlement itself.

FUTURE DEVELOPMENT.

22 It is repeated that the settlers come from the agricultural classes and they prefer cultivation work to any other. It is therefore stressed that Government may be pleased to pass early orders for the establishment of an agricultural settlement in Sind in the interest of real improvement of the Criminal Tribes and of smoother administration of the Department.

23. The District Officers have been slow in their proposals for placing more Criminal Tribe members in Settlement. They require to be reminded by Government in this respect if further development of the Settlement Department be in view.

24. The proposed re-examination of the registers of Hurs in Sind was postponed under Government orders to the next year on account of my being over-busy in the District Magistrate's Office.

25. As a necessity arising out of the last communal riots in Sukkur, Government have sanctioned wire-fencing of a portion of the Settlement for the worst settlers, and made provision of muskets for the guarding staff. The wire-fencing will be put up and the muskets purchased during the next year.

FINANCE.

26. The total net expenditure under "28—Jails and Convict Settlements", excluding the contribution paid to the Government of Bombay for the detention of Hurs there, came to Rs. 16,220-13-11 during the year under report as against Rs. 20,073-4-3 of the last year.

FINAL.

27. The problem of securing suitable employment for the settlers still remained difficult inspite of Government orders for preferential treatment to them. The rumour, which persisted during the whole year, regarding the abolition of the Settlement, created a great psychological effect on the restive minds of the settlers. In their high expectations of early return to their homes, some of the worst often showed indifference to discipline and gave many an anxious moment to the staff whose work deserves mention in coping with the difficult situations successfully.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

TUFAIL MOHAMED,
Criminal Tribes Settlement Officer,
Sind, Sukkur.

APPENDIX I.

Statement of population in Sukkur Settlement as it stood on the 31st March 1941.

Caste.	Male.	Female.	Children.	Total.
1. Bhanojo	1	1	3	5
2. Khaskheli	2	1	..	3
3. Khoso	1	...	...	1
4. Mochi	1	1	1	3
5. Kirio...	1	2	3	6
6. Islami	1	2	...	3
7. Aradin	1	...	...	1
8. Jakhro	1	1	1	3
9. Bhalai	1	1	1	3
10. Gudaro	1	...	...	1
11. Panhwar	1	2	1	4
12. Chandio	4	...	...	4
13. Nizamani	1	...	...	1
14. Mari	4	2	..	6
15. Khokhar	1	1	2	4
16. Jagirani	4	3	7	14
17. Rind	1	1	...	2
18. Mazari	1	...	...	1
19. Sambhal	1	...	...	1
20. Junejo	1	...	...	1
21. Attrani	2	1	3	6
Total ...	32	19	22	73

TUFAIL MAHOMED,
Criminal Tribes Settlement Officer, Sind, Sukkur.

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